



April 18, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ex Parte Notice

Reexamination of Roaming Obligations of CMRS Providers, WT Docket No. 05-265; Rural Cellular Association Petition for Rulemaking Regarding Exclusivity Arrangements Between Commercial Wireless Carriers and Handset Manufacturers, RM-11497; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Petition for Rulemaking Regarding 700 MHz Band Mobile Equipment Design and Procurement Practices, RM-11592; Wireless Competition, WT Docket No. 10-133; Service Rules for the 698-746, 747-762 and 777-792 MHz Bands, WT Docket No. 06-150

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Friday, April 15, 2011, Shirley Bloomfield, CEO of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (“NTCA”), together with the undersigned, met with Ruth Milkman and Jim Schlichting from the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Sharon Gillett and Carol Matthey from the Wireline Competition Bureau.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the challenges NTCA’s small wireless telecommunications providers face in the provision of mobile wireless service. The NTCA representatives told the Commission representatives that small company members require access to spectrum. They pointed out that if unused licensed spectrum is made available to rural providers, rural customers will be served. The NTCA representatives urged the Commission to require large carriers to part with fallow spectrum and suggested that if spectrum is made available as a result of a AT&T/T-Mobile merger there be restrictions limiting the companies that may obtain it.

Ms. Bloomfield praised the Commission for its recent data roaming order, but pointed out that roaming agreements are often one-sided and it will be necessary to see how compliance progresses. Commission action was urged on rulemakings regarding handset exclusivity and interoperability in the 700 MHz band.

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Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS with your office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 351-2020 or jcanfield@ntca.org.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jill Canfield
Jill Canfield
Director, Legal & Industry

JMC:rhb

cc: Ruth Milkman
Jim Schlichting
Sharon Gillett
Carol Matthey